

a powerful woman, that bravery was magnified by her voice being heard as a proud Black woman. She stood—like a prophetess of old—in defense of the principle that all men and all women are created equal, and are deserving of equal rights.

Dorothy Height was a woman of stunning dedication, discipline and vision. Although, at times, she may have been overshadowed in the press and the history books by the men of the Civil Rights movement, she will never be forgotten in the hearts and minds of the millions whom she touched.

When Dorothy Height stood with Martin Luther King, Jr., on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial as he delivered his famous “I have a dream” speech, she stood tall in her own right as both a woman, and as a leader.

During the continuing civil rights struggles of the 1960s, Dorothy Height worked tirelessly to advance our cause. The Movement’s success owes as much to her determination as it does to the more well-known legacies of Dr. King, Roy Wilkins, A. Philip Randolph, Whitney Young, James Farmer, and Bayard Rustin.

Ms. Height left no avenue untraveled in her march toward Dr. King’s “beloved society.” She brought together Black and white women to initiate a dialogue of understanding; wrote weekly columns in the New York Amsterdam News, a weekly African American newspaper; promoted community development programs in Africa; and served on numerous committees to this end.

In particular, Dorothy Height’s work within the National Council of Negro Women encouraged positive and lasting change in our Nation. She served as the President of the Council for 40 years, retiring in 1997. From her bully pulpit as President, Dorothy Height advocated for equality for both African Americans and women. She emphasized self-help and reliance, even as she encouraged practical programs in nutrition, child care, housing and career counseling.

Madam Speaker, I was deeply gratified when Dorothy Height was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 2004, one of the most deserved awards that we have ever bestowed. With her passing, millions of women—and men—have lost a role model, and America has lost one of our true treasures.

My prayers are with Ms. Height’s family and friends during their time of loss.

THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL: A LEGACY OF SERVICE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2009–2010 Congressional Youth Advisory Council. This year 45 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 9 through 12 made their voices heard and made a difference in their communities, their country and their Congress. These students volunteered their time, effort, and talent to inform me about the important issues facing their generation. As young leaders within their communities and their schools, these students boldly represent the promise

and the hope we all have for their very bright future.

President Ronald Reagan said, “Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn’t pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children’s children what it was once like in the United States where men were free.”

To ensure that the blessing of freedom is passed from one generation to the next, the members of the CYAC spent time interviewing a veteran and documenting the experience for the “Preserving History Project.” Today I’m proud to submit the brief summaries provided so the patriotic service of our dedicated veterans and the thoughtful work of the CYAC may be preserved for antiquity in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. A copy of each submitted student summary follows.

To each member of the Congressional Youth Advisory Council, thank you for making this year and this group a success. It is not a coincidence that this congressional tribute celebrates two generations of service. Each of you is trusted with the precious gift of freedom.

You are the voices of the future and I salute you. God bless you and God bless America.

The summary follows:

Retired Air Force Major Mark Smith enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1969, at age 19. He spent six years serving as an enlisted serviceman, was honorably discharged, and pursued his education using the GI Bill while working. After completing his Masters Degree in Computer Information Systems, he applied to Officers’ Training School (OTS) and reenlisted in the Air Force. Major Smith spent the remainder of his time as an officer working in Tactical Communications Systems and Information Systems Management. Smith’s one overseas duty station was as an enlisted airman; he was stationed with the RAF station at Chicksands in England. Later in his career as an officer, he had some temporary duty assignments in Saudi Arabia, Haiti and Panama.

This interview was the first time I have questioned a veteran about their experiences, and it was fascinating. The Smiths expressed such a high level of enthusiasm and pride about their lives in the United States Air Force that it would have been difficult to come away from the interview with anything but a positive outlook towards a military career.—Katya Sousa

CONGRATULATING HALF HOLLOW HILLS EAST HIGH SCHOOL ON WINNING THE WE THE PEOPLE NEW YORK STATE FINALS

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Half Hollow Hills East High School, which was named the New York State champion of the We the People: The Citizens and the Constitution competition.

The We the People competition is an extremely prestigious national academic contest that promotes the study of the United States Constitution. The students from Half Hollow Hills East who participated in the simulated

congressional hearings were judged on their knowledge of and ability to apply the Constitution to current events. The students earned the best scores of the nine high schools that competed in the New York State Final Hearings in March and as a result, will represent New York State in the national finals.

I am proud to recognize Half Hollow Hills East High School for this outstanding academic achievement.

HONORING MR. JAMES MUSCATO

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to the people of Chautauqua County by Mr. James Muscato. Mr. Muscato served his constituency faithfully and justly during his tenure as a member of the Dunkirk City Council.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Muscato served his term with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Muscato is one of those people, and that is why, Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to him today.

COMMENDING UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT HUSKIES ON WOMEN’S NCAA BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1239, Commending the University of Connecticut Huskies for their historic win in the 2010 NCAA Division I Women’s Basketball Tournament. On March 6, 2010, the Huskies capped an undefeated season by beating the University of Stanford Cardinal 53–47 in the NCAA Championship game. There are many things that make this team impressive, but to show just how dominant they were, this was their only victory all season where they defeated an opponent by less than 10 points. With 78 straight wins, they broke their own record for all-time consecutive victories.

Throughout their unbelievable run, the UConn women’s basketball team has captivated the state of Connecticut with their awe-inspiring talent. Tina Charles’ tremendous play at center earned her recognition as both the United States Basketball Writers Association and the Associated Press Player of the Year. Additionally, she was named the Naismith Award winner and the Wooden Award winner. Although she will graduate this year, she will undoubtedly be remembered as one of the all-